

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 14334 141136Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 EPG-02 SP-02
STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGRE-00
DODE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 L-03 XMB-02 PM-04
NSC-05 SS-15 /107 W
-----141737Z 000516 /64

R 141132Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2836
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 14334

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR FR UK US
SUBJECT: THE BRITISH HIT BACK

REF: PARIS 12399

1. IN STRONG, WELL-ARGUED LETTER COVERING HALF OF PAGE 4 OF LE MONDE MAY 13 THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR IN PARIS PRESENTS AN UNUSUAL PUBLIC DEFENSE AGAINST THE WIDE RANGE OF ACCUSATIONS TO WHICH FRENCH HAVE BEEN SUBJECTING THE UK SINCE THE RECENT AGRICULTURAL MINISTERS MEETING IN LUXEMBOURG AND THE EVENTS LEADING UP TO JENKINS' EXCLUSION FROM THE FIRST DAY AT THE LONDON SUMMIT. WE SHOULD ADD THAT THIS CRITICISM HAS CONTINUED TO BE REFLECTED IN FRENCH OFFICIAL CONVERSATIONS SINCE THEN, WHERE UK BEHAVIOR WITH REGARD TO THE COMMON MARKET CONTINUES TO BE ATTACKED.

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2. THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR'S LETTER (COPIES OF WHICH WE ARE POUCHING TO THE DEPARTMENT - WE/DOBBINS AND RPE EMBASSY LONDON AND EC BRUSSELS) FIRST TAKES UP THE TWO MOST CONTROVERSIAL CONCRETE ISSUES, OF AGRICULTURAL PRICES AND BUTTER, IN SOME DETAIL; AND THEN MOVES TO THE BROADER GROUND, RAISED BY A LEMONDE EDITORIAL ON APRIL 27 (PARA 2, REFTTEL), WHETHER IT IS THE UK'S INTENTION

TO QUOTE REPLACE THE COMMUNITY WITH A FREE TRADE
ZONE DOMINATED BY THE US ENDQTE.

3. SINCE JOINING THE MARKET, THE AMBASSADOR ARGUES, THE
UK HAS A) NOTICEABLY REDUCED ITS PURCHASES OUTSIDE OF
THE COMMUNITY, EVEN IN QTE SENSITIVE ENDQTE AREAS LIKE
NEW ZEALAND CHEESE AND BUTTER; B) HAS INTERVENED WITH
JAPANESE IN CONCERT WITH REST OF THE COMMUNITY REGARDING
THEIR EXCESSIVE PRESENCE ON THE COMMUNITY MARKET IN
CERTAIN SECTORS SUCH AS STEEL; C) HAS SUPPORTED ITS
COMMUNITY PARTNERS VIS-A-VIS THE US ON US TRADE RESTRICT-
IONS; D) PLAYED A KEY ROLE IN THE NEGOTIATION OF THE
LOME CONVENTION WHICH GIVES DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AD-
VANTAGES REFUSED TO THE US; AND E) SHARES ITS PARTNERS'
VIEWS, INCLUDING THOSE OF FRANCE, ON THE MTN AND THE
IMPORTANCE OF PROTECTING THE COMMON MARKET IN THE FRAME-
WORK OF THE MULTI-FIBER AGREEMENT. THE LETTER
CONCLUDES WITH A FORCEFUL REASSERTION OF THE UK'S ATTACH-
MENT TO THE COMMUNITY, QTE WHICH SHOULD NO LONGER BE PUT
IN QUESTION. ENDQTE.

4. ASKED ABOUT THE BACKGROUND OF THIS LETTER, A
BRITISH EMBASSY COLLEAGUE SAID SIMPLY THAT BRITS WERE
QTE FINALLY TIRED OF TAKING FRENCH GUFF AND DECIDED TO
REPLY. ENDQTE. WE ASSUME, HOWEVER, THAT DECISION WAS
NOT MADE IN PARIS, AND IS FOREIGN OFFICE'S
WAY OF LETTING GISCARD KNOW THAT RECENT HARPING WAS
COMING CLOSE TO ACCEPTABLE LIMITS. QTE CRITICISM ENDQTE
THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR HAD SAID IN OPENING OF HIS LETTER,
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QTE IS THE LIFE'S BREATH OF THE COMMUNITY. ENDQTE.
HOWEVER, THE RECENT LE MONDE EDITORIAL (WHICH, WE ADD,
WAS OBVIOUSLY INSPIRED) SEEMED TO QTE EXCEED THE LIMITS
OF FAIR PLAY ENDQTE. THE MESSAGE IS CLEAR.
GAMMON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLICIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, ALLEGATIONS, COMMON MARKETS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770171-0668
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770558/aaaabxvi.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d545d593-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Retention: 0
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SAS ID: 2522991
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE BRITISH HIT BACK
TAGS: PFOR, FR, UK, US
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